

City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) **2010 – 2011 Influenza Season** **Situational Awareness Report #4** **January 20, 2011**

MHD provides key stakeholders with situational reports to summarize the latest updates regarding the MHD, State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (WDHS) and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) response to 2010 – 2011 Seasonal Influenza.

New Key Developments

1. CDC surveillance is currently identifying increases in influenza activity. These increases are primarily occurring in the southern and eastern portions of the United States. Current MHD influenza surveillance is identifying low levels of influenza circulating in the City of Milwaukee. MHD would like to stress that it is still not too late to be vaccinated for this year's influenza season.
2. The MHD laboratory reported its first laboratory confirmed case of influenza for the 2010 – 2011 influenza season during the week of January 2nd – January 8th.
3. On January 20, 2011 the CDC released updated information on the use of antiviral medications for the treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza. For a copy of the updated guidance, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6001.pdf>.
4. On January 13, 2011 the CDC released influenza vaccination coverage for the U.S. from 2000 – 2010 (approximately 50%), including information on the 2009 pandemic. For a copy of this CDC report, please visit http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/su6001a7.htm?s_cid=su6001a7_e&source=govdelivery.
5. On January 7, 2011 the CDC released a toolkit to teach children about influenza and ways to protect themselves and their family. This toolkit is targeted for schools and childcare facilities. For a copy of the toolkit, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/business/TeachingChildrenFlu.pdf>.
6. On December 29, 2010 the CDC released updated guidance for obstetric health care providers related to the use of antivirals during the 2010 – 2011 influenza season. Pregnant women are at high risk of complications from influenza infection. For a copy of the guidance, please visit http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/avrec_ob2011.htm.

Influenza Surveillance

- MHD influenza surveillance continues to report low levels of influenza-like-illness (ILI) in Milwaukee during the week of January 2nd – January 8th.
- Given the current low levels of ILI in Milwaukee, MHD continues to recommend against the use of rapid influenza tests for the diagnosis of influenza, because their positive predictive value remains low. Until influenza prevalence begins to increase, PCR testing remains the most appropriate laboratory test for influenza.

- The Wisconsin Division of Public Health influenza surveillance continues to report low levels of ILI in Wisconsin during the week of January 2nd – January 8th.
- CDC has reported eight influenza-related pediatric deaths during the 2010 – 2011 influenza season.
- CDC is reporting that eleven states reported widespread influenza activity, 17 states reported regional activity, 16 states reported local activity, and six states (including Wisconsin) reported sporadic activity for the week of January 2nd – January 8th.

Influenza Vaccine

- The CDC reports that the trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine is considered a good match for the currently identified circulating strains of influenza that are being identified in the U.S., and MHD continues to encourage that all individuals be vaccinated for influenza this season.
- The Aurora VNA continues to have seasonal influenza vaccine available at their West Allis location by appointment only. To make an appointment or for more information on the cost, accepted medical coverage, and, age requirements, please contact Aurora VNA at (414) 328-4430.
- Several area pharmacies have seasonal influenza vaccine available at their locations. For more information on the cost, need for an appointment, accepted medical coverage, and age requirements, please visit their individual websites.
 - CVS (www.cvs.com/flu/?WT.mc_id=B_083010_CVSHome_Flu_Scheduler)
 - Target (http://sites.target.com/site/en/spot/flushot_locator.jsp)
 - Walgreens (www.walgreens.com/marketing/storelocator/find.jsp?check=true&ban=flh1_h_flu)
 - Wal-Mart (<http://flushotsusa.walmart.com/>)

Additional Resources

- www.milwaukee.gov/flu
- www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/influenza/
- www.cdc.gov/flu

The information contained in this situational report has been generated by MHD and is intended to be used by public health stakeholders to assist them in making strategic decisions during the 2010 – 2011 Influenza Season. This situational report is not intended to replace stakeholders' current pandemic flu planning or their continuity of operations plans.